

## **RULES FOR THE 2017 LONGINES GLOBAL CHAMPIONS TOUR**

### **EVENTS**

The number of Global Champions Tour events in 2017 is 15 (each a “**GCT Event**”).

### **OVERALL CLASSIFICATION**

Athletes may take part in all GCT Events.

The GCT overall classification is based on each athlete’s points from 50% of the total number of GCT Events held during the season, rounded up to the next number.

Events on borrowed horses do not count for points. In case of a tie on points for any position at the end of the season, the athlete with the greatest number of first place finishes is classified before any other athletes tied for the same number of points. If there is still a tie, the athlete with the greatest number of second place finishes is classified before the other athletes and so on until all athletes with the same number of points have been separated.

A prize money for overall classification is offered to the top 18 athletes in the GCT overall classification (tour series) as follows:

1st place	31%
2nd place	20%
3rd place	13%
4th place	8%
5th place	5%
6th & 7th places	3,5% each
8th to 11th places	2% each
12th to 14th places	1,5% each
15th & 16th places	1% each
17th & 18th places	0,75% each

Prizes won by athletes who are tied are added and divided equally.

The amount of the prize money for the GCT overall classification is EUR 950’000.

The top 3 athletes in the GCT overall classification must be present at the last GCT Event of the season to receive their prize in person and to be available for the press conference. Athletes must be dressed in competition attire. No prize money is given to an athlete who does not present himself at the prize giving ceremony if required to do so.

### **INVITATION SYSTEM FOR EACH GCT EVENT**

#### **Groups 1 and 2**

**Groups 1 and 2** consist of **60% of the number of athletes participating.**

**Group 1** consists of 30% of the number of athletes participating and will be individual athletes taken in descending order from the Longines FEI rankings applicable for that specific GCT Event.

**Group 2** consists of 30% of the number of athletes participating and will be team athletes taken from the Longines FEI rankings top 250 as of August 31 of the immediately preceding year (maximum 1 per team). Team athletes are athletes participating in the Global Champions League Event (“**GCL Event**”) taking place during the GCT Event. The unused Group 2 invitation(s) are reallocated to Group 1.

At least one athlete per GCL team must come from Group 1 or 2. If already three (3) athletes of the same GCL team are entered under Group 1, the same team cannot enter a fourth athlete under Group 2.

Substitutions are taken in descending order until 15 days prior to the start of the GCT Event (this applies also to the FEI wild card); for the GCT Events organized outside Europe, due to the requirements for horse flights and health documents, the deadline is 45 days before the GCT Event. After this date the place(s) will be allocated by the OC (Group 4).

### **Group 3**

Group 3 consists of **10% of the number of athletes participating**. Group 3 consists of 1 FEI wild card. The other athletes are home athletes selected by the home National Federation (NF).

The home athletes are selected by the home NF and the FEI wild card by the FEI. Should the NF and/or FEI not be able to meet its quota of athletes in this group, the quota will be filled by inviting additional athletes by OC (Group 4).

### **Group 4**

Group 4 consists of **30% of the number of athletes participating** selected by the OC. The invitations in Group 4 can only be used to invite GCL team athletes (so that each team participating in the GCL Event taking place during the GCT Event has 3 team athletes). It is not obligatory that the athletes be chosen from the Longines FEI rankings. If less than 20% of the athletes have to come from Group 4 in order to accommodate GCL teams, the OC can invite individual riders up to 20%. The unused Group 4 invitation(s) are reallocated to Group 1.

**The total number of athletes participating in Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4 shall be according to the approved FEI schedule; provided, however, that the percentages of athletes in Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4 shall be 60% for Groups 1 and 2 (30% for each); 10% for Group 3; and 30% for Group 4.**

## **Group 5**

Group 5 consists of additional team athletes not competing in the GCT Grand Prix.

Group 5 does not count for the percentages of the invitation system. Athletes in Group 5 are invited only if and to the extent that the invitations are required to have 3 team athletes per team for the GCL Event taking place during the GCT Event. So if a GCL team has 3 team athletes pursuant to Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4, no athlete will be invited in Group 5.

## **ENTRIES**

In accordance with the current FEI rules on entries, no athlete may enter more than one event on the same weekend without the agreement of both OCs. The penalty for contravening this rule is disqualification from the event(s) at which the athlete participated. This does not apply to athletes on the definite entry list who have been selected to replace another athlete at a CSIO on the same week end (Jumping rules Art. 251.14). OCs of GCT Event will permit athletes who withdraw following the deadline date for the definite entries from a GCT Event to participate at a CSI4\* or lower event on the same dates but will not allow participation of such athletes in another CSI5\* on the same dates.

## **ELIGIBILITY FOR THE GCT GRAND PRIX**

Participation in each GCT Grand Prix is open to maximum 25 athletes.

Only athletes invited from Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4 are eligible for qualification in the GCT Grand Prix. Athletes invited from Group 5 can participate in the qualifying competition but cannot qualify for the GCT Grand Prix.

Should the number of athletes participating at any GCT Event with an invitation in Group 1, 2, 3 and 4 exceed 25, there will be a qualifying competition for the GCT Grand Prix.

To be eligible to start in the GCT Grand Prix, the athlete must complete at least the initial round of one FEI competition in the GCT Event with the horse he/she will ride in the GCT Grand Prix. This shall mean, in case of mixed competitions (one round and jump-off or two rounds), that the athlete must have completed the first round; and, in case of a two phase competitions, that he must have completed the 1<sup>st</sup> phase (This also applies in case Art. 274.5.6 is used for two phase competitions).

If the GCT Grand Prix is held on the second day of the GCT Event, and for whatever reason an athlete has not been able to complete one competition (as outlined here above) on the first day of the GCT Event with the horse to be ridden in the GCT Grand Prix, the athlete in question may take part with the horse to be ridden in the GCT Grand Prix in a competition on the same day as the GCT Grand Prix if he/she wishes to take part in the GCT Grand Prix. This exception is only applicable if the GCT Grand Prix is held on the second day of the GCT Event.

## **QUALIFYING COMPETITION FOR THE GCT GRAND PRIX**

The qualifying competition for the GCT Grand Prix will be scored under Table A (Art. 238.2.1), and will take place either the days before or on the same day as the GCT Grand Prix.

The qualifying competition is open to all athletes participating in the GCT Event but only athletes invited from Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4 are eligible for qualification in the Grand Prix. Athletes invited from Group 5 can participate in the qualifying competition but cannot qualify for the GCT Grand Prix.

The second competition of the GCL that takes place during the GCT Event will count as a qualifier for the GCT Grand Prix of the GCT Event concerned. After 2017, there can be additional competitions at GCL Events and more competitions can count as qualifier for the GCT Grand Prix and for the ranking of the teams at a GCL Event.

**Starting order:** Athletes are divided into two groups: the first group are the individual athletes (not competing in the GCL team competition). The starting order of the first group is established by draw. The second group are the GCL team athletes.

The athletes are classified according to their penalties and time. The amount of prize money for the qualifying competition and the tax deduction will be specified in the schedule of the GCT-GCL Event.

## **DESIGNATED CLASS FOR GCT RANKING**

The class that counts for points in the GCT ranking is the GCT Grand Prix.

The GCT Grand Prix is a jumping competition against the clock with one jump-off against the clock in case of a tie on penalties for the first place (Art. 238.2.2). The athletes not taking part in the jump-off are classified according to their penalties and time in the first round.

## **STARTING ORDER**

The starting order is the reverse order of the result of the qualifying competition.

The order of starting in the jump-off is according to the same order as in the first round.

## **POINT SYSTEM**

The following point system will be used for each GCT Grand Prix (place – points):

1 40;	6 31;	11 26;	16 21;	21 16;
2 37;	7 30;	12 25;	17 20;	22 15;
3 35;	8 29;	13 24;	18 19;	23 14;
4 33;	9 28;	14 23;	19 18;	24 13;
5 32;	10 27;	15 22;	20 17;	25 12.

Points won by athletes who are tied are added and divided equally.

## **PRIZE MONEY FOR EACH GCT GRAND PRIX**

The minimum prize money of each GCT Grand Prix will be 300,000.00 euro. The amount for each GCT Grand Prix and the tax deduction will be specified in the schedule of each GCT Event.

The partition of the prize money is as follows in percentage:

1st place	33%
2nd place	20%
3rd place	15%
4th place	10%
5th place	6%
6th place	4,5%
7th place	3%
8th place	2,5%
9 <sup>th</sup> and 10 <sup>th</sup> place	2%
11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> place	1%

The OC has the right to round off slightly the amounts, maintaining the proportions of the percentage.

Prizes won by athletes who are tied are added and divided equally.